Exploration for Oil and Natural Gas in Gujarat

1371. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where exploration work for oil and natural gas has been carried out by the Oil India Limited, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. and other Indian Oil Companies in Gujarat, particularly in the tribal areas of the State during the last three years;

(b) the names of places where exploration work is going on presently;

(c) whether adequate number of rigs have been provided for this purpose; and

(d) if not, the time by which the required number of rigs are likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) ONGC has conducted exploration work in the tribal areas of Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Panchmahal and Dang districts of Gujarat.

Presently seismic surveys are being carried out in the areas South of Padra, Harij-Khambel-Bechraji, Lanwa-Balol, Modhera, Linch-Nandasan, Gamij and South of Gandhinagar, Pansar-Paliyad and Gandhar-Goladra area.

Exploratory drilling is also being carried out at Ahmedabad, Viraj, Kalol, Sanand, Nandej, Halisa, Gamij; Walod; Linch, Sobhasan, Nandasan, Jotana, Gandhar and Padra.

(c) Yes, Sir. Rigs for exploratory drilling have been provided as per the approved Annual Plan for 1994-95.

(d) Does not arise.

LPG agencies at Block/Tehsil level in Uttar Pradesh

1372. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to allot LPG agencies at Block/Tehsil level in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented;

(c) the places where LPG agencies under the scheme are likely to be opened in the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) At present, LPG distributorships are opened at places having population of 20,000 and above as per 1991 census, subject to economic viability and product availability. In addition to 72 LPG distributorships included in the marketing plan 1992—94, 128 more LPG distributorships have been included in the LPG marketing plan 1994—96 for Uttar Pradesh.

Keeping in view the expected increase in availability of product and the demand from the smaller towns, it has been decided to include adjoining villages also for working out the viability of LPG distributorships for smaller towns.